

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 197650  
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:CMONROE:JD  
APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES  
S -MR. HOUGHTON  
S/S-O: TGMARTIN

-----105813 050157Z /66

R 042209Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197650

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR JO

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN CROWN PRINCE HASSAN'S MEETING WITH  
SECRETARY VANCE

1. ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, CROWN PRINCE HASSAN MET WITH  
SECRETARY VANCE. JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR SALAH, HASSAN'S  
ECONOMIC ADVISER SULTAN LUFTI, NEA DEPUTY ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY VELIOTES, AND NEA/ARN CHRIS MONROE (NOTETAKER)  
WERE ALSO PRESENT.

2. CROWN PRINCE HASSAN STARTED THE DISCUSSION BY ASKING  
ABOUT SECRETARY VANCE'S UPCOMING TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST.  
THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE PLANS TO BE IN JERUSALEM  
SATURDAY TO TALK TO PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, LEAVE THE  
FOLLOWING MORNING FOR ALEXANDRIA, STAY FOR A DAY AND A  
HALF, AND THEN RETURN IMMEDIATELY TO THE U.S. TO RELAY THE  
OUTCOME OF THESE MEETINGS TO THE PRESIDENT. VANCE STRESSED  
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THAT IT WOULD BE A VERY SHORT TRIP TO TALK TO THE TWO  
HEADS OF STATE FIRSTHAND, RELAYING A MESSAGE FROM THE  
PRESIDENT. AFTER THESE TALKS, WE WOULD THEN WEIGH THE

PROS AND CONS. AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE PRESIDENT, WE  
WOULD DECIDE WHAT COURSE OF ACTION TO FOLLOW NEXT.



3. SECRETARY VANCE THEN ASKED CROWN PRINCE HASSAN FOR HIS VIEWS ON THE CURRENT STATE OF THINGS. HASSAN RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT HE BELIEVED THE BEGIN SCHOOL OF THOUGHT WAS MAKING ITS FINAL "BID," BASED ON SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR THE TERRITORIES. HASSAN INDICATED THAT THE REALIZATION OF THIS PLAN WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE, THAT IT WAS PREJUDGING THE OUTCOME OF THE SELF-DETERMINATION EXERCISE AND THAT IT WOULD PLACE SEVERE INHIBITIONS ON THE PEOPLES IN THE TERRITORIES. ONE EXAMPLE OF THIS WAS THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM, WHICH THE ISRAELIS WERE EXCLUDING FROM THE ENTIRE PROCESS. THE ISRAELI VIEWS ON THESE ISSUES SEEMED TO STEM FROM THEIR VIEWS OF THEIR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

4. HASSAN WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE ONUS OF ISRAELI ACTIVITY WAS FALLING MORE AND MORE ON LEBANON. LEBANON WAS LIKE AN OPEN SORE THAT COULD BE REOPENED AT ANY TIME. HASSAN STRESSED THE NEED FOR THE LEBANON CONFLICT TO BE CONTAINED. THE SECRETARY RESPONDED BY VOICING THE U.S. CONCERN OVER THE CHRISTIAN REFUSAL TO LET THE 650-MAN BATTALION TO MOVE INTO THE SOUTH. THE SECRETARY INFORMED HASSAN THAT HE HAD SENT A CABLE TO BEGIN ON THIS URGING HIM STRONGLY TO USE HIS INFLUENCE WITH HADDAD TO LET THE LEBANESE ARMY THROUGH. VANCE REITERATED THAT THIS WAS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE. HE ADDED THAT WE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY RESPONSE FROM BEGIN, BUT IT WAS REPORTED ON THE RADIO THAT HADDAD HAD DECIDED TO ALLOW THE TROOPS TO GO THROUGH.  
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THE SECRETARY STRESSED IF THE TROOPS DID NOT MOVE SOUTH, IT WOULD DESTROY THE REMAINING THREADS OF SARKIS' CREDIBILITY.

5. HASSAN THEN COMMENTED THAT THE SYRIANS HAD TWO OPTIONS: TO STAY AND CONTINUE TO PLAY THE ROLE THAT THEY HAD BEEN PLAYING OR LEAVE. SECRETARY VANCE COMMENTED THAT THE SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT IN LEBANON HAD BECOME A REAL HEMORRAGE WITH THE TROOP LOSSES. HASSAN AGREED, AND ADDED THAT IT HAD BEEN A HUMILIATION AS WELL.

6. THERE WAS A DISCUSSION OF THE CURRENT DANGER OF ESCALATION OF THE FIGHTING, AND THE NEED TO KEEP UNIFIL IN PLACE AND TO GET THE LEBANESE ARMY TROOPS TO MOVE DOWN SOUTH. HASSAN INQUIRED ABOUT REPORTS OF A POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF FRENCH TROOPS FROM UNIFIL. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT UNIFIL REMAINED A VIABLE CONCEPT BUT WITHOUT FRENCH PARTICIPATION, THE OPERATION WOULD BE GREATLY WEAKENED. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO KEEP THE FRENCH IN, BUT WE WILL TRY.

VANCE



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